

We Claim:

1. A device for folding an intraocular lens, the device comprising:

a folding area having two pivotably interconnected half-shells which can be pivoted from an open starting position to a closed finishing position in which said half-shells enclose between them a guide channel for receiving the intraocular lens, said half-shells including a first half-shell and a second half-shell; and

a sheet-like band loop having a securing end secured on said first half-shell and guided displaceably by said second half-shell, and in the open starting position, a receiving space for the intraocular lens is formed between said band loop and said two half-shells such that, with the intraocular lens fitted in place, the intraocular lens is surrounded by said band loop and said two half-shells in the open starting position, and in that, by pulling on said band loop, said two half-shells being moved in a direction toward the closed finishing position such that the intraocular lens is folded.

2. The device according to claim 1, wherein said two half-shells have outer longitudinal edges, and in the closed finishing position said two half-shells bear against one another along said outer longitudinal edges, said band loop is

secured on said longitudinal edge of said first half-shell and is guided on said longitudinal edge of said second half-shell.

3. The device according to claim 1, wherein said second half-shell has a guide slit formed therein for guiding said band loop.

4. The device according to claim 1, wherein in that, viewed in a cross section perpendicular to a channel axis of said two half-shells, an inner side of one of said two half-shells has a step for supporting an edge of the intraocular lens.

5. The device according to claim 4, wherein one of said two half-shells has a side flap extending along the channel axis and can be guided, from a forward position in which said step is formed, radially toward the channel axis into a retracted position.

6. The device according to claim 5, wherein said side flap can be locked in the retracted position.

7. The device according to claim 1, wherein said band loop has a remaining portion and a subsidiary portion attached to said securing end and, at a kink oriented parallel to said guide channel, said subsidiary portion is connected in an articulated manner to said remaining portion of said band

loop, and said remaining portion, in the open starting position, is oriented outward in a radial direction so that said receiving space has a pocket extending above said first half-shell.

8. The device according to claim 1, further comprising a gripping device selected from the group consisting of a grip piece and a grip stub, said gripping device adjoining at least one of said two half-shells.

9. The device according to claim 1, wherein said band loop is configured to be secured on an outer side of said second half-shell.

10. The device according to claim 8, wherein said band loop is configured to be secured on an outer side of said gripping device.

11. The device according to claim 1, wherein said band loop is guided on said second half-shell in such a way as to exclude a possibility of said band loop sliding back counter to a pull direction of said band loop.

12. The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said two half-shells and said band loop has at least one

through-bore formed therein for introducing a viscoelastic material.

13. The device according to claim 1, further comprising an injection channel, said injection channel and said folding area forming a one-piece structural unit and said injection channel is flush with said guide channel.

14. The device according to claim 13, further comprising an injector housing having a push rod and a push channel for receiving said push rod, said folding area, said injection channel and said injector housing forming a one-piece structural unit in which said folding area is disposed between said push channel and said injection channel.

15. The device according to claim 1, further comprising a deformable plunger for pushing the intraocular lens forward in said guide channel.

16. The device according to claim 13, wherein said injection channel has a front end with an injection tip narrowed substantially to a channel center of said injection channel.

17. The device according to claim 1, further comprising a container, and in the open starting position with the intraocular lens fitted into said receiving space, said

folding area containing the intraocular lens is disposed for storage and/or transport in said container.

18. The device according to claim 17, wherein said container is filled with a liquid and is sealed off tight.

19. The device according to claim 17, wherein the intraocular lens is stored dry in said container, and said container is sealed off tight.